







# TO THE TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN.

## REPORT

OF THE

### COMMITTEE ON TOWN ACCOUNTS.



SAMUEL GARFIELD,

*Collector, in account with the Town :*

	Dr.
Amount uncollected taxes, as by Auditors' report, 1853,	1232 51
Tax Bill, as by assessment in 1853,	3795 26
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	\$5027 77

	Cr.
Paid State Tax,	536 90
Paid County Tax,	407 73
Paid Town Treasurer,	2859 29
By services as Collector for 1851, '52, and '53, including	
school-houses and village precinct taxes,	153 00
Balance,	1070 85
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	\$5027 77

GEORGE OLCOTT,

*Treasurer, in account with the Town :*

	Dr.
Balance in Treasury, March 5, 1853,	331 04
Cash, by S. Garfield, Collector,	2859 29
the town of Claremont, for deduction on pauper bill,	8 00
literary fund,	77 97
for support of county paupers,	554 25
Swan fund, principal and interest,	394 70
for railroad tax,	343 09
sundry individuals' highway taxes,	110 87
sales of neat stock from town farm,	60 00
"    grain from town farm,	4 00
"    stone posts,	8 47



Cash, from the town of Keene, support of John Terriel,	9 14
for use of town house,	3 00
widow Huntley's dower,	30 00
draft in favor of A. McFarland lost and payment stopped,	26 32

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\$4820 19

**Cr.**

Cash paid for the support of schools,	1321 10
for roads and bridges,	760 30
for support of town paupers,	319 02
for support of county paupers,	310 64
for expenditures on town farm,	549 32
for Teachers' Institute,	31 06
for incidentals,	65 23
for abatement of taxes,	3 29
for account of burial ground,	426 88
for expenditures on tomb and hearse-house,	77 00
for interest on town debt,	87 00

Cash paid to town officers, viz : —

Thomas Whipple, S. S. Committee,	19 55
S. L. Fletcher, “	10 00
George Olcott, treasurer,	25 00
S. L. Wilder, town clerk,	25 00
W. A. Rand, overseer of poor,	15 00
W. A. Rand, selectman,	63 13
Benjamin Whipple, “	41 87
C. W. Converse, “	41 27

Balance in the Treasury March 9, 1854,	628 48
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\$4820 14

## TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN,

*in account with itself:*

### LIABILITIES.

**Dr.**

Note to J. J. Hubbard,	1000 00
Note to David Holton,	500 00
Notes to Ashbel Hamlin, and interest,	983 00
School District No. 10,	173 75
Literary Fund,	77 97
Lyman Britton, services 11 months on town farm,	206 00
Swan fund,	333 33
Order to Henry Hubbard, jr., services as S. S. Committee,	10 00
Order to J. J. Hubbard, for interest,	60 00
Sundry unsettled accounts, estimated	150 00
Excess of assets over liabilities,	2455 63

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\$5949 68

## ASSETS.

	Cr.
Balance in the treasury,	628 48
Town farm,	3000 00
Personal property on town farm,	1174 87
Balance due from S. Garfield, collector of taxes for 1851,	
'52, and '53,	1070 85
Balance due from H. L. Hubbard, collector,	25 06
Balance due from J. C. Stebbins, collector,	50 42
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	\$5949 68

## TOWN FARM,

*in account with itself:*

	Dr.
Personal property, March, 1853,	1106 83
Interest on personal property,	66 41
Interest on \$ 3000 — cost of farm,	180 00
Services of L. Britton,	225 00
Cash paid for sundry articles for use of farm,	324 32
Wm. A. Rand, overseer,	15 00
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	\$1917 56

	Cr.
Personal property, as by invoice Selectmen, March, 1854,	1174 87
Cash for the support of county paupers,	267 20
for sales of personal property,	66 50
labor on bridges,	5 00
for sale of beef,	3 00
support of poor,	400 99
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	\$1917 56

JOHN M. GLIDDEN, } Committee on  
 SAMUEL WALKER, } Town Accounts.

Charlestown, March 9, 1854.





# SCHOOL REPORT.

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The Superintending School Committee, appointed in April, 1853, respectfully submit the following REPORT of the state of our Schools for the past year :—

In DISTRICT No. 1, The summer school was kept by Miss Jane Gould, and the winter term by Mr. J. W. Knight, of Springfield, Vt.,—both good and successful teachers. The school-room, though small but pleasant, and well located, is furnished with a clock, and the walls are decorated with appropriate mottoes. To this district belongs the honor of establishing the first School Library in the town.

**HIGH SCHOOL.**—Three years have now passed since the union of Districts 2 and 3 into one, called the CHARLESTOWN HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT, for the purpose of increasing the facilities of obtaining a thorough education, and raising the general character of the Schools therein. Three schools were established and suitable school-houses provided by a thorough and judicious repair and alteration of the two buildings before used, and the erection of one new building. The new school-house is modelled and furnished after the most approved plan, and will compare favorably with any house in this part of the State.

Although the District is at the expense of maintaining three Schools, it enjoys the advantage of only two grades. The two schools kept in the old houses being both primary and of the same grade, and the one kept in the new house being of a grade higher, and called the High School. The bad effect of only two grades is more apparent in the so called High School, than in the others, so many scholars are of necessity crowded into it, who properly belong to the second grade, and who are not familiar with even the fundamental rules of arithmetic; who know nothing of grammar, and scarcely any thing more of geography. These second grade scholars, if we may so distinguish them, are young for the most part, and are so numerous in the High School, that the teacher must devote the principal share of his attention to them, or at least should do so, if he does his duty, consequently the older, more advanced and most diligent scholars in the District are kept back, they have no advantages whatever of pursuing the studies suited to them, and the High School is in fact only so in name, and is scarcely on a level with the Schools in the other Districts.

The Committee are not disposed to be very minute in their report of the six different schools and school teachers of the past year. The general character of the schools was in advance of that of the schools of last year; more especially is this true of those kept by the female teachers. One or two of the schools were of the highest order. The usefulness of some of the schools was much impaired by a very injudicious course of study, adopted by the pupils themselves with the assent of the teacher, but contrary to the express directions given by the Committee. In the opinion of the Committee, boys and girls should be familiar with their arithmetic, geography and grammar, before throwing them aside and trying to step into new, and, in their opinion, higher branches of study, without the aid of such common-place, every-day knowledge as may be obtained from these time-honored studies.

The Committee would farther remark, that many individual scholars in this District have obtained little or no benefit from the school, from their irregular attendance; and not only they suffered, but the general good of the school is injured by this blameworthy conduct of individuals. In most cases the fault is with the parents or guardians of the scholar, who should feel it to be their duty to see to it that their scholars are promptly and regularly at school. And in this connection the Committee would suggest to the Town the propriety of adopting the "*Truant Act*," Chapter 1278, Laws of 1852. The judicious application of that law in this district, if not in other districts in town, would probably be highly useful. Its operation in other places has been, it is believed, favorable.

**DISTRICT No. 4.** This is one of our most advanced schools; several who have been teachers attending the winter term as scholars. Miss Malvina A. Putnam, conducted the summer term with ability and success. Miss Putnam maintains good order in her school, and her method of instruction is thorough and systematic.

The winter school was kept by Mr. Henry Carriel. A spirit of insubordination showing itself soon after the commencement of the school, was met by the teacher with promptness and energy, and soon overcome. His course was fully approved by the Sup. Committee, and as we trust by the district. The recitations at the closing examination were all of high order. In Geography and Arithmetic, this school excels.

We cordially award to these teachers the merit due them for their fidelity and devotedness to the arduous duties of teaching.

The school-house in this district was repaired and enlarged the past year.

DISTRICT No. 5. This, but a few years since one of the most backward of our schools, has made great progress; it has some advanced scholars, and ranks second to but few schools in the town. It has a School Library of fifty-six volumes.

The summer term was kept in the old school-house; the winter school in the new one, erected the past year, and favorably located. Both terms were under the instruction of Miss Catherine H. Rand. By her mildness and dignity Miss Rand won the affection of her scholars; and she has acquired the reputation of a teacher of the first order. A little more attention to discipline would have rendered the winter term a model school.

DISTRICT No. 6. Miss Jane Labaree, an experienced teacher, possessing refinement of character, aptness to teach, and skill in governing, taught the summer school. Our citizens showed the interest they felt in the cause of education by frequent visits to the school room; the closing examination was numerously attended, and the exercises were creditable alike to the teacher and the scholars.

The winter term was attended by a large class of advanced scholars. Mr. Charles J. Davis, of Acworth, the teacher, appeared well qualified to instruct, and he commenced his school under very favorable circumstances. The first examination of the school was favorable, but disorder soon appearing, was unchecked, and the school closed abruptly on the ninth week. It is the great and frequent fault of teachers to leave their scholars to govern themselves. The teacher that thus compromises his duty, loses his own authority, and the respect of his scholars and of the community, and the usefulness of the school ceases.

DISTRICT No. 7. This school has for several years been in the back ground; it is now making rapid advances. Mrs. M. W. Hubbard, a teacher of experience and superior ability, kept both terms. Your Committee have never witnessed schools better classified and arranged. Both examinations were interesting and satisfactory. This school has one of the best classes in arithmetic we found. We regretted to see that the desks, benches and walls of this new school-house have been sadly mutilated and de-



faced with the jackknife, and we hope the citizens of this district will be as active in detecting such offences, as they were in ferretting out and bringing to justice those who committed the acts of vandalism on the outside of the house. In connexion with this subject we attach no censure to the teacher of the *past* year.

DISTRICT No. 8. The summer school was taught by Miss Sarah Alden, and the winter term by Miss Rosette M. Putnam.—This district have recently repaired and greatly improved their school-house. Miss Putnam is a thorough and accomplished teacher; and the exercises of the examination, aided by the pleasantness and stillness of the school-room, and the confidence of the scholars, were highly interesting and praiseworthy.

DISTRICT No. 9. Teachers—summer, Miss Fanny R. Carriel; Winter, Miss Helen M. Richardson, of Cornish. Notwithstanding the disadvantage of a school-house totally unfit for the purpose, this school has gained a good standing. This was Miss Carriel's first school. Miss Richardson has taught several schools in this town with credit to herself and profitably to her employers. Good order characterized this school, and at the closing examination the recitations, particularly in mental arithmetic, demonstrated that both teachers and scholars have acquitted themselves well.

DISTRICT No. 10. This district has no school-house, and it has for many years kept up a school only occasionally. Miss Sophia Hull, kept a summer term of twelve weeks. The committee were gratified with the appearance of the school, and with the interest which Miss Hull contrived to excite in a school of three scholars. No school the past winter.

DISTRICT No. 11. Miss Emily A. Mellish, of Drewsville, an experienced teacher, conducted the summer school. Mr. Geo. P. Porter, of Paper-mill Village, taught in the winter. The school-house is comparatively new, and has been destitute of a blackboard until supplied with one the past winter by the exertions of the teacher. Though a beginner, Mr. Porter appeared at home in the school-room. The decorum of the scholars, and the promptness and energy of the various recitations at the examination, show that this district was fortunate in their selection of teachers.

DISTRICT No. 12. Teachers—summer, Miss Annette V. Putnam; winter, Miss Columbia R. Frost. Most of the scholars are young. Both schools appeared well throughout; the class in reading was very good. Miss Putnam and Miss Frost are judicious and successful teachers.

DISTRICT No. 13. Summer term by Miss Porter, of Langdon. Miss Carpenter, of Rockingham, Vt., teacher of the winter



school, permitted her scholars to study as loud as they read; and the admonition of the committee upon this, and upon other points, were unheeded by teacher and scholars. The committee did not deem it advisable to dismiss the teacher without application for that purpose. But the continuance of the school through the term was, perhaps, of doubtful utility.

**DISTRICT No. 14.** The school-house is old, inconvenient, and badly ventilated. The scholars are poorly supplied with books, and tardy and irregular in attendance. The teachers, Miss Sarah N. Challis, in the summer, and Mr. William S. Kempton, of Croydon Flat, in the winter, labored hard to make themselves useful, and their efforts were somewhat successful. Miss Challis made the fullest and most pertinent school report which we have seen. This is Mr. Kempton's first attempt at teaching, and we cheerfully award him the merit due to success attained under embarrassments.

**DISTRICT No. 15.** The scholars of this district attend a school in Claremont and spend their school money there.

No report has been received from the teachers in district No. 13. Of the six teachers in the High School District, reports from two only have reached the Committee.

The attention of our Prudential Committees is requested to the following extract from our school laws. Compiled Statutes, page 179:—"It shall be the duty of every teacher of a public school, to make, at the close thereof, a Report to the Superintending Committee of the town. And no teacher shall be entitled to pay for his services until this provision has been complied with." Also to the Digest of the School Laws, pp. 46 and 47.

	No. of District.	Number of Scholars in the District.	Number of Scholars attending school.	Apportionment of the School Money.	Number of weeks in Summer School.	Number of weeks in Winter School.	Wages of the male Teachers a month.	Wages of the female Teachers a month.
	1	29	25	75 74	16	8	14 00	7 00
High School 2 & 3	170	160	365 10	10	10	20 00	9 00	
4	75	56	155 19	13	14	20 00	8 00	
5	36	27	87 49	12	11		7 00	
6	49	44	110 06	10	9	20 00	8 00	
7	33	33	82 28	10	11		6 00	
8	16	13	52 78	10	10		7 00	
9	31	25	78 81	12	12		6 00	
10	4	3	9 38	12	0		4 00	
11	21	17	61 45	9	9.5	12 00	5 00	
12	18	16	56 25	12	13		5 67	
13	21	17	61 45	10	10		6 00	
14	34	23	84 02	12	11	12 00	4 50	
15	4	2	9 38					

Total, 541 461 \$1288 98

Average length of Summer School, 11 1-3 weeks.

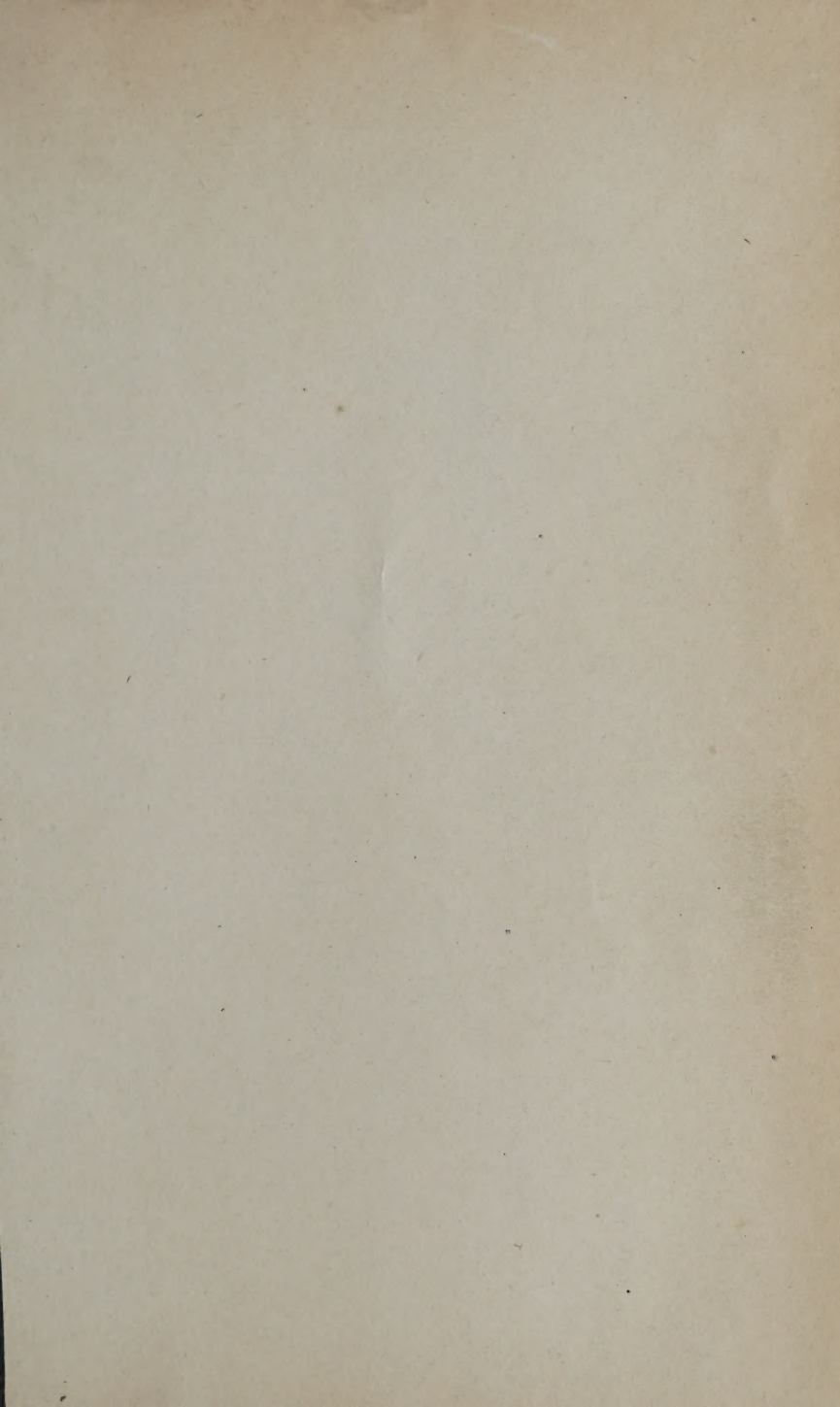
Winter School, 10 2-3 weeks.

But Charlestown is very far behind all this yet; not so much because she has not the ability, but rather because she is not yet alive to her duty, and, in fact, to her own self-interest.

Charlestown, March 10, 1854.

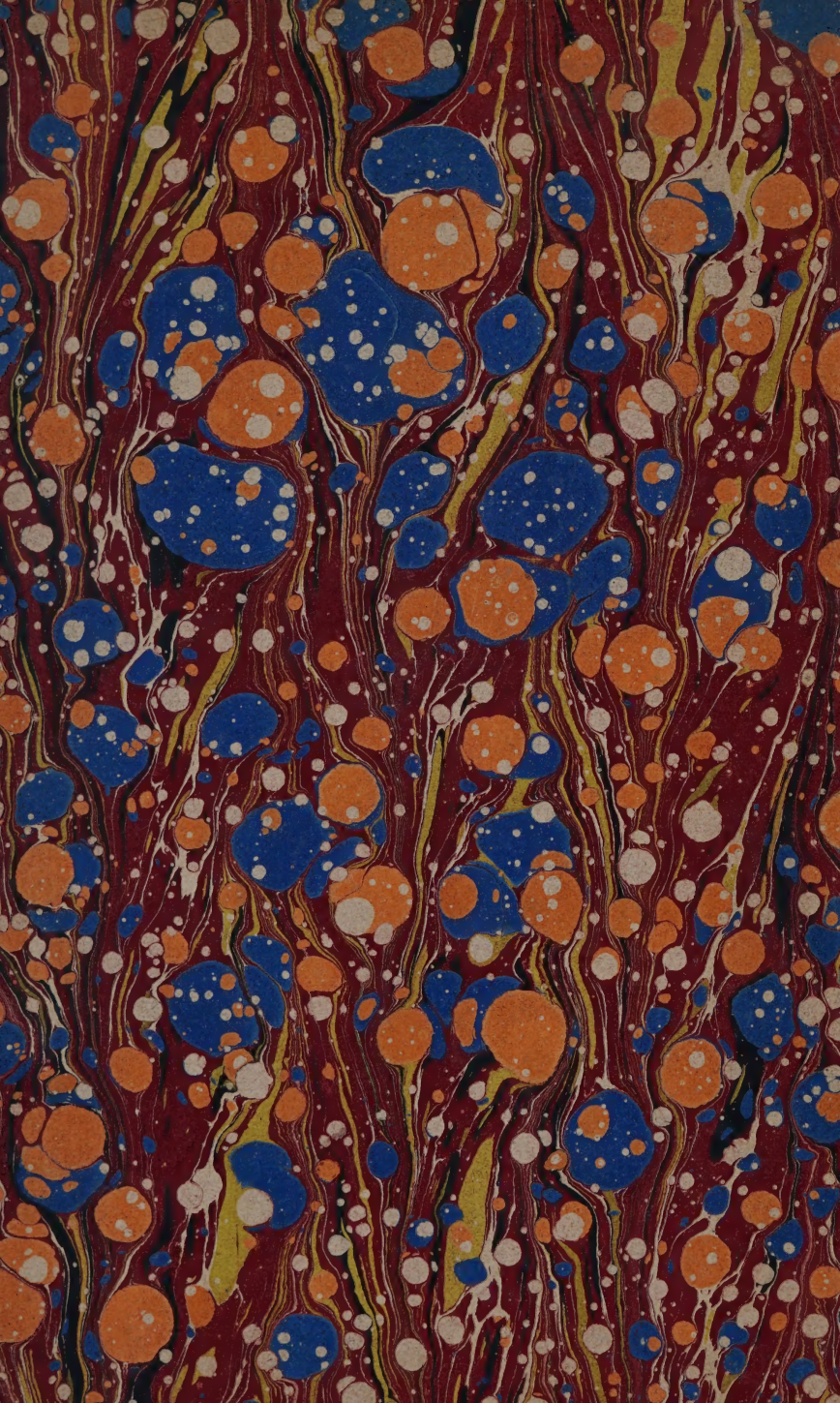














New Hampshire State Library



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